673 Spruce Brook Road

Corner Savage Hill Road & Spruce Brook Road

1767 colonial

Daniel Wilcox Jr (1741-1776), Revolutionary War soldier who died in Roxbury, MA.
& Susannah Porter (1741-1769).
& Mercy Gibson (1748-).
William Bowers (1794-1878) & Almira Bailey (1807-1897).

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

1767 Daniel Wilcox Jr current owner William Sheppard Savage Hill

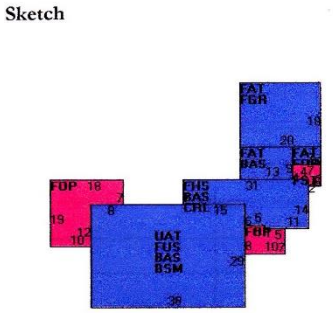
1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 160

1800 William Bowers current owner: Dr William Bowers Spruce Brook Road

William Bowers bought the house in 1822.

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1767 current owner: Pistol Creek holdings



Genealogy

Daniel Wilcox Jr (1741-1776) son of Daniel Wilcox & Sarah White. In 1763 he married Susannah Porter (1741-1769). He married 2nd to Mercy Gibson (1748-). He had children: Nathaniel, Susannah, David, Daniel, Joseph. He ws a member of the Kensington Congregational Church. He lived at Bowers Corner. His home was built in 1771. He ran a mill: carding, spinning wool and cotton thread which was given to neighbors to weave into blankets and cloth. He served in the Revolution and died in Roxbury, Massachusetts.

William Bowers (1794-1878) son of Nathaniel Bowers & Phoebe Clark. Married Almira Bailey (1807-1897). They had children: Alfred, Caleb, Fanny, William N, Samuel. They are buried in Minor Cemetery, Middletown, CT

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#160

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR	IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) | (Historic): William Bowers House

2. TOWN, CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE: | COUNTY: Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 673 Spruce Brook Road | 22-2 23-1/142/39

4. OWNER(S): Bowers, Dr. William C. (est.) c/o R. Shepard " " Berlin 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private

5. USE (Present): Residence | (Historic): Residence

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Vernacular | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1800

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☒ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☒ Brick chimney ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: ☒ Cut stone Type: Brownstone foundation

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify)

10. ROOF (Type)
☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify)

(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) ☒ Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 38' x 30'

12. CONDITION (Structural): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated | (Exterior): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location): ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN? | (Alterations): ☒ Yes ☐ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN: Attached garage

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☒ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☒ Rural ☐ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In a semi-rural area with a number of 18th-century houses.

160

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER	DATE
HRC	11/84
VIEW: NW	NEGATIVE ON FILE: H-26

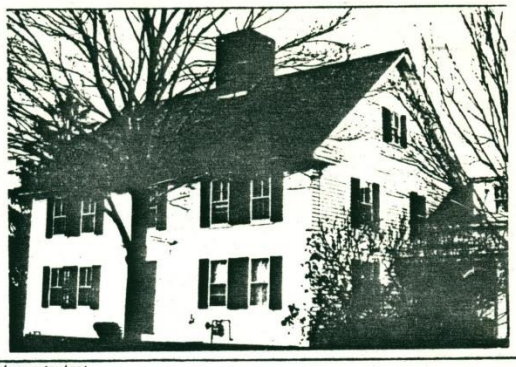
COMPILED BY

NAME	DATE
Historic Resource Consultants	12/84

ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory

ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:



DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

This house has a five-bay facade with a central entry. The heavy-paneled entry door has a wide plain surround with a slightly projecting, molded peaked cap. Windows are fitted with 2-over-2 sash. Facade windows are paired and offset towards the corners of the house. Second-floor facade windows are located immediately under the eaves. The molded main-roof cornice shows a partial return across the gable ends. On the right elevation are a number of c. 1900 additions with Colonial Revival detailing, including a garage. The left elevation has a side entry protected by a one-story Tuscan-columned porch.

SIGNIFICANCE

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

This house is architecturally significant as a well-preserved 18th-century central-chimney house. An adaptation of traditional English building methods to a land rich in wood and stone, these houses depended on the amount of heat that could be stored in their massive stone and brick chimneys to ward off the cold of New England winters. Typical 18th-century features present here include the symmetrical five-bay facade, the paired offset windows, the location of the second-floor windows under the eaves, and the ridge-parallel-to-street orientation.

The 18th-century history of this house proved difficult to trace. William Bowers bought the house in 1822 and lived in it through much of the early and middle 19th century.

SOURCES

1855 Atlas
1869 Atlas
Berlin Land Records 16:359, 378 (1822)